

**GENE GREEN**

29TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

- ☐ 2470 RAYBURN  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-1688
- ☐ 256 N. SAM HOUSTON PKWY. E  
SUITE 29  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77060  
(281) 999-5879
- ☐ 11811 I-10 EAST  
SUITE 430  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77029  
(713) 330-0761
- WWW.HOUSE.GOV/GREEN

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4329**

September 8, 2016

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE**

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**DEMOCRATIC SENIOR WHIP**

The Honorable Thomas E. Wheeler  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I am contacting you in regards to the Joint Petition for Rulemaking requested by America's Public Television Stations, the AWARN Alliance, the Consumer Technology Association, and the National Association of Broadcasters on the Next Generation TV standard.

The Next Generation TV transmission standard (ATSC 3.0), developed by a broad range of stakeholders, including the broadcast, consumer electronics, and cable industries, holds the promise of providing an enhanced product and related services to American consumers at little to no cost to the public. The Next Generation TV will improve our nation's emergency broadcast system, including provide micro-targeting for local weather and public safety emergencies for communities throughout the United States. Most encouraging, local broadcasters are only requesting for permission to use the new transmission standard that will neither require additional spectrum, public funds, nor require changes to the current digital television standard.

I was encouraged by the FCC's Public Notice for Comment on the Joint Petition and your comments "to move with dispatch on next generation TV standards" earlier this year. I agree that federal regulators need to move expeditiously on the new standards. However, I am growing concerned that the Commission may delay taking action on this important matter before the end of the calendar year. Given all the benefits to the public, I request that the FCC release a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on the Next Generation TV standards as soon as reasonably possible.

Thank you for your time and energy on this important matter. I look forward to your prompt response. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance on this or other issues before the Federal Communications Commission.

Sincerely,



Gene Green  
Member of Congress



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

October 26, 2016

The Honorable Gene Green  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2470 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Green:

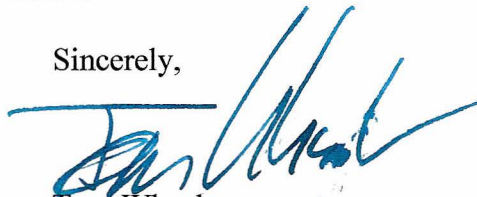
Thank you for your letter regarding the Joint Petition for Rulemaking concerning the ATSC 3.0 broadcast transmission standard (ATSC 3.0 Petition).

As you reference in your letter, the Commission's Media Bureau issued a Public Notice on April 26, 2016 seeking comment on the ATSC 3.0 Petition. The comment period closed on June 27, 2016 and Commission staff is reviewing the record and engaging with industry representatives on this topic. Specifically, the Media Bureau and the Office of Engineering and Technology are actively considering the issues that should be raised in a NPRM proposing to authorize the ATSC 3.0 broadcast standard. We seek to support broadcasters' innovation while at the same time ensuring that consumers who are not yet equipped for this change can continue to receive the same level of TV service they have come to expect.

The record reflects the enormous potential of ATSC 3.0. Its advocates state that ATSC 3.0 will allow broadcasters to offer improved television service to consumers. Although the benefits of ATSC 3.0 may be great, the transition to this broadcast transmission standard comes with considerable technical and logistical challenges, costs, and some risks to the many stakeholders involved, including consumers. A forthcoming NPRM will carefully study the balance between advancing broadcast technology that brings new features and opportunities to broadcasters and their viewers and ensuring the continuity and quality of broadcast service to all Americans.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



Tom Wheeler